

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

NO. CV24-1722-RSL

Plaintiff,

V.

ONE 2022 MERCEDES GLE COUPE
SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE,
VIN 4JGFD8KB4NA779976,
BEARING WASHINGTON LICENSE
PLATE CEP2184, REGISTERED TO
ANTHONY J. VALELA; AND

DEFAULT JUDGMENT OF FORFEITURE

\$17,721.00 IN U.S. CURRENCY SEIZED
ON OR ABOUT JUNE 12, 2023,

Defendants.

This matter comes before the Court on the United States' Motion for Default Judgment of Forfeiture (the "Motion"), for the above-captioned 2022 Mercedes GLE Coupe Sport Utility Vehicle, VIN 4JGFD8KB4NA779976, bearing Washington License Plate CEP2184 (the "Defendant Mercedes") and \$17,721.00 In U.S. Currency seized on or about June 12, 2023 (the "Defendant Currency") (collectively, the "Defendant Property").

1 The Court, having reviewed the Motion, as well as the other pleadings and papers
 2 filed in this matter, hereby FINDS entry of a Default Judgment of Forfeiture is
 3 appropriate because:

4 1. The United States has properly served, by direct notice reasonably
 5 calculated to reach identified potential claimants and by publication, all potential
 6 claimants, as required by Rule G(4) of the Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime
 7 Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions (“Supplemental Rules”) (see Dkt. Nos. 3, 6, 7, 9, 10,
 8 12, 14, 15, 16, 19);

9 2. No person has filed a claim to the above-captioned property within the
 10 required period provided by Supplemental Rules G(4) and G(5) or otherwise appeared in
 11 this case;

12 3. On April 17, 2025, the Clerk of Court entered default against all potential
 13 claimants (see Dkt. No. 20);

14 4. The factors set forth in *Eitel v. McCool*, 782 F.2d 1470, 1471-72 (9th Cir.
 15 1986), weigh in favor of entry of default judgment.

16 Now, therefore, a Default Judgment of Forfeiture is ENTERED, as follows:

17 1. The above-captioned Defendant Property is fully and finally condemned
 18 and forfeited to the United States, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(6) (proceeds from the
 19 sale of controlled substances);

20 2. The above-captioned Defendant Mercedes is also forfeitable to the United
 21 States, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(4) (facilitating property for drug distribution and
 22 possessing drugs with the intent to distribute) and pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A)
 23 (property involved in a transaction in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957);

24 3. Hereinafter, no right, title, or interest in the Defendant Property shall exist
 25 in any party, other than in the United States; and

1 4. The United States Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of
2 Investigation, and/or its agents and representatives, shall dispose of the Defendant
3 Property as permitted by governing law.

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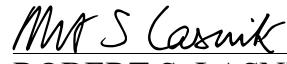
5 It is so ORDERED.

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7 DATED this 2nd day of May, 2025.

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11 ROBERT S. LASNIK
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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14 Presented by:

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